By the King.

¶ A Proclamation restraining the abusiue venting of Tobacco.

WHereas the Kings most excellent Maiestie being informed of the abuses dayly arising of the vngouerned Selling and Retailing of Tobacco, by his Proclamation lately published, did prohibit all his people, that after the feast of Candlemas, which is now last past, none of them out of certaine Cities and Townes therein specified to haue beene appointed, and within those Cities and Townes no other but certaine persons named, as in the said Proclamation is expressed, and such as from time to time as should be permitted, should sell or deliuer any Tobacco by Retaile, herein requiring due obedience vntill his Maiestie should make other declaration, as by the same Proclamation appeareth.

Sithence which, a great number of his Maiesties louing subiects haue repaired to some Lords, and others of his Maiesties Priuie Councell, being his Maiesties Commissioners appointed to treat with them, and haue humbly desired Letters Patents of Licence to sell Tobacco by Retaile, whereunto his Maiesties said Commissioners haue consented: but because it is both conuenient and necessary that the number of those that be Licensed to sell Tobacco by Retaile, and also their names be knowne, that in time conuenient notice may be taken from them how much Tobacco in each yeere they Retaile and Vent: that vpon knowledge thereof, his Maiesty for preuenting of the issuing out of the Realme too great a proportion of the Stocke of this Kingdome, may giue order for the quantity of Tobacco that shall be yeerely brought in: And being resolued that any who from henceforth shall presume to vtter or sell Tobacco, not being Licensed, shall seuerely be proceeded against: For these and for other causes, the King our Soueraigne Lord straightly defendeth and commandeth, that neither such as by pretext of being formerly nominated as meet men to Retaile Tobacco, nor any other from henceforth presume to sell or vtter Tobacco by Retaile, vntill they shall haue obtained his Maiesties Licence in that behalfe, any permission or tolleration that may be pretended by the said Proclamation, or any other signification notwithstanding, vpon such paines of censure in the Court of Star-Chamber and elsewhere, as may be inflicted vpon contemners of his Maiesties commands publiquely proclaimed. Wherein his Maiestie is pleased, that a part of the Fines set vpon the Contemners of this Command, be conferred vpon those that giue notice of the Offenders, so as they may be brought to iudgement.

Giuen at Our Court at Newmarket, the thirteenth day of March, in the ninth yeere of Our Reigne.

God saue the King.

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